

REMARKS

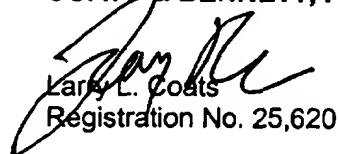
The comments of the Examiner as set forth in the official office action of July 31, 2003 have been carefully studied and reviewed. In this response, claims 11 and 51 have been canceled and claims 1, 12, 44 and 52 have been amended. Based on the last office action, Applicant has attempted to place the application in condition for allowance in view of the Examiner's position. On page 5 of the office action, the Examiner has noted that claims 10, 61-63, 11-12, 51-55 and 64-65 are in condition for allowance. With respect to claims 11-12, 51-55 and 64-65, the Examiner has noted that the prior art fails to teach a central beam disposed between the first and second sets of channels. Therefore, claims 1 and 44 have been amended to include a recitation relating to the central beam.

Therefore, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully requested. If for any reason this response does not place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order that an expeditious effort can be made to place the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.

By:



Larry L. Coats
Registration No. 25,620

P.O. Box 5
Raleigh, NC 27602
Telephone: (919) 854-1844